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JOURNALS AND NEW BOOKS

JOURNAL OF EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY. January, 1920. *The Translation Method of Teaching Latin* (pp. 1-15): W. H. FLETCHER. - An examination of the curriculum of junior high schools located in different sections of the country reveals a striking similarity of purpose on the part of administrators. The results of the translation method showed that the interest of the class is maintained at the highest pitch, the pupils like to translate Latin, and they like to study Latin. *The Psychology of Riddle Solution* (pp. 16-33): THOMAS RUSSELL GARTH. - An experiment was conducted with riddles. The writer concludes that one must believe in the trial-and-error character of the method employed in riddles solutions. Speedy guessing tends, as thus objectively determined, to militate against successful guessing. *An Inquiry into the Statistical Basis of a Conclusion Concerning Sex Differences* (pp. 34-38): GEORGE W. FRAZIER. - In 1915 Yerkes, Bridges and Hardwick published a monograph explaining the derivation and standardization of A Point Scale for Measuring Mental Ability. They were convinced that their data showed some pronounced sex differences. Two very interesting statistical points are involved in the method by which their conclusion was reached: (1) the wisdom of using the mode as a measure of central tendency and (2) the validity of conclusions drawn on so few data. The present writer gives tables showing no pronounced sex differences. Is it fair to make conclusions concerning general differences in mental ability, as judged by the point scale, on the basis of a 3.1 difference in arithmetical mean? Is the point scale method so refined that one can be sure that the P.E. might not be greater than any of the above differences? The second point concerning the statistical basis of the conclusions we are dealing with has to do with the number of cases considered. The authors were evidently justified in making their conclusions on the basis of the arrangement of the data as given in the monograph and were also conscious of the limited number of cases considered, but it appears from the rearrangement of the data that no differences between the sexes as great as indicated by Yerkes exists. *Communications and Discussions: Age-Grade Distribution and Intelligence Quotient*: ALLEN J. WILLIAMS. - A discussion following Supt. Witham's article in the *Journal* for November, 1919. *Editorial News and Notes. Publications Received.*

Dunning, William Archibald. *A History of Political Theories, from Rousseau to Spencer.* New York: Macmillan Co. 1920. Pp. 446.

- Langfeld, Herbert Sidney. *The Æsthetic Attitude*. New York: Harcourt, Brace & Howe. 1920. Pp. xi + 287.
- Merriam, Charles Edward. *American Political Ideas: Studies in the Development of American Political Thought, 1865-1917*. New York: Macmillan Co. 1920. Pp. 480.
- Parker, DeWitt H. *The Principles of Æsthetics*. Boston: Silver, Burdett & Co. 1920. Pp. 380.
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NOTES AND NEWS

ANNOUNCEMENT is made of the establishment of an Institute of Politics at Williamstown, Mass., during the summer months. This project was first undertaken by Williams College in 1913, but the plans for it had to be suspended during the war. Now, through the kindness of an unnamed benefactor, funds have been provided to carry on the work for three years, so that it will be possible to hold the first session this summer. The object of the institute is to advance the study of politics and to promote a better understanding of international relations. The subject chosen for this year's session is "International Relations." It will be treated in its historical, political, industrial, commercial and institutional phases. The work will be carried on by lectures given by men of national and international distinction, and by classes and round-table conferences conducted by professors from American colleges and universities. In addition, every facility will be offered for research, as a special library is being collected for this purpose. The lectures will be open to the public, but the classes and round-table discussions may be attended only by regularly registered members of the institute. Membership is limited to members of the faculties of colleges and universities and to those to whom, by reason of special training and experience in the field of politics, invitations will be sent. President Harry Augustus Garfield, of Williams College is the Chairman of the Administrative Board. The Board of Advisors is composed of the following members: Professor William Howard Taft, of Yale; Professor Archibald Cary Coolidge, of Harvard; Professor Philip Marshall Brown, of Princeton; Professor John Bassett Moore, of Columbia; President Edwin Anderson Alderman, of the University of Virginia; Professor Jesse Siddal Reeves, of the University of Michigan; President Edward Asahel Birge, of the University of Wisconsin; Professor Westel Woodbury Willoughby, of Johns Hopkins; President Harry Pratt Judson, of the University of Chicago, and Dr. James Brown Scott, Secretary of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.